



Keynotes



Rob Bell

Rob Bell has 42 years' experience in coastal and estuary engineering, risk from coastal hazards, the impacts of climate change on coastal lowland communities and infrastructure and adaptive planning for climate adaptation (including managed retreat).

Rob, formerly with NIWA, was the Lead Author of the 2017 coastal guidance for local government published by NZ's Ministry for the Environment for planning adaptation to climate change and contributed to the latest revision. The guidance pivots around the Dynamic Adaptive Pathways Planning approach to deal with the deepening uncertainty from coastal climate impacts.

Rob was a Contributing Author for the IPCC Working Group II 6th Assessment Report on climate change impacts for Australasia (2022). He has been involved in assessments of several coastal infrastructure projects where sea-level rise is an emerging issue, compounded with river flooding and stormwater runoff. He has explored ways to incorporate an adaptive paradigm into the delivery of infrastructure and utility services.

Rob is a certified Resource Management Act Hearings Commissioner and Chartered Professional Engineer (Environmental).



Ian Garside

Ian Garside is a founder member of the Water New Zealand Modelling SIG and has over 35 years of international experience in the water industry, the vast majority of which has been in New Zealand.

Ian's background in modelling stems back to the 1980s where he was involved in pioneering work on Urban Pollution Management, providing mitigation from intermittent discharges from wastewater networks in the UK. He brought this experience to bear in New Zealand leading significant project for Watercare known as Project Storm. Project Storm laid the foundation for the Central Interceptor which is currently being constructed.

Ian is currently chair of the Water New Zealand Conference and Expo technical committee, a role that he has held for over a decade and is an honorary life member of Water New Zealand

Ian is a current director and shareholder of ProjectMax and the AssetLife Alliance group of companies. Recently Ian has been assisting the National Transition Unit of the DIA in the management of several projects in the asset management stream.

Ian will be speaking about the genesis of the Modelling SIG in the 90s and reflecting on its achievements over the years and finally will pose a challenge to its current members.





Lara Taylor

Kairangahau Māori

E Oho! Awakening Aotearoa. Saying no to status quo. Enabling holistic governance & mgt for te taiao via Tiriti-centric research, planning, & strategy.

My research is currently focused within three of the National Science Challenges. I co-lead a project "Enabling Kaitiakitanga and Ecosystem-based Management" in Sustainable Seas with Dr Dan Hikuroa alongside Desna Whaanga-Schollum, one in the Resilience Challenge regarding Resource Management reforms, and ensuring they are fit-for-OUR-purpose and will enable Māori, hapū, whānau 'resilience' as determined by us, and am working with Tina Porou and Pia Pohatu in Our Land and Water to support Māori landowner implementation of Te Mana o te Wai.

In 2018 I completed the Ka Eke Poutama: Rangatahi into Governance and Leadership training. I am now a Trustee on one of our Ahu Whenua land blocks which lies on our tupuna awa, the Waikato; a Komiti member of Papa Pounamu - the Special Interest Group for Māori Planners and Practitioners; and a Komiti member of the International Scientific Committee on Cultural Landscapes Committee on Indigenous Knowledge and Perspectives; advisory to the World Heritage Centre, UNESCO. I have been our Ngāti Tahu iwi representative for almost ten years on the Contact Energy Ohaaki Powerstation Peer Review Panel.

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